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First published in 2004, John Olsson’s practical introduction to Forensic Linguistics has become required reading for courses on this new and expanding branch of applied linguistics. This second edition has been revised, expanded and updated throughout, and includes new chapters on identifying forensic texts, new challenges in the field and exciting new directions for future research.

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knowledge of sociolinguistics or the law, the book has an accessible style combined with discussion questions and exercises as well as topics for assignments, term papers, theses and dissertations. A wide range of legal contexts are investigated, including courtroom hearings, police interviews, lawyer interviews as well as small claims courts, mediation, youth justice conferencing and indigenous courts. The final chapter looks at how sociolinguists can contribute to the legal process: as expert witnesses, through legal education, and through investigating the role of language in the perpetuation of inequality in and through the legal process.

Sociolinguistics and the Legal Process - Dr. Diana Eades - 2010-04-06

Sociolinguistics and the Legal Process is an introduction to language, law and society for advanced undergraduate and postgraduate students. Its central focus is the exploration of what sociolinguistic research can tell us about how language works and doesn’t work in the legal process. Written for readers who may not have prior knowledge of sociolinguistics, the book has an accessible style combined with discussion questions and exercises as well as topics for assignments, term papers, theses and dissertations. A wide range of legal contexts are investigated, including courtroom hearings, police interviews, lawyer interviews as well as small claims courts, mediation, youth justice conferencing and indigenous courts. The final chapter looks at how sociolinguists can contribute to the legal process: as expert witnesses, through legal education, and through investigating the role of language in the perpetuation of inequality in and through the legal process.

Multimodal Conduct in the Law - Gregory Matoson - 2018-09-30

The study of language and law has seen explosive growth in the past twenty-five years. Research on police interrogations, trial examination, jury deliberation, plea bargains, same sex marriage, to name a few, has shown the central role of written and oral forms of language in the construction of legal meaning. However, there is another side of language that has rarely been analyzed in legal settings: the role of gesture and how it integrates with language in the law. This is the first book-length investigation of language and multimodal conduct in the law. Using audio-video tapes from a famous rape trial, Matoson and Gilbert examine legal identity and interaction at the interface of language and nonverbal conduct. They explore the role of gesture in legal identity and interaction, and provide an analysis of the role of gesture in legal discourse. They conclude that language and gesture are intrinsically intertwined and that legal identity and interaction are complex and multidimensional phenomena.

An Introduction to Forensic Linguistics - Malcolm Coulthard - 2005

An overview of the interface of language and the law, illustrated with authentic data and contemporary case studies. Topics include collection of evidence, discourse, courtroom interaction, legal language, comprehension and forensic phonetics.

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Forensic Speaker Identification - Phil Rose - 2002-07-01

A voice is much more than just a string of words. Voices, unlike fingerprints, are inherently complex. They signal a great deal of information in addition to the intended message: the speakers’ sex, for example, or their emotional state, or age. Although evidence from DNA analysis grasps the headlines, DNA can’t talk. It can’t be recorded playing.

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The field of forensic linguistics is a niche area that has not enjoyed much participation from the African continent. The theme of language and the law in this book is one that straddles two important aspects of the legal history of South Africa in particular, and how it has impacted on the country’s legal and education systems. The declaration, by the United Nations, of 2019 as ‘The International Year of Indigenous Languages’ is opportune, not only for the launch of this book, but for what its research content contains for all citizens of the world. It is our hope that this book will tell the story of many African citizens, and that those citizens will not be forced to give their testimonies in a language of their choice, and that they may be heard and understood.

Language and Legal Proceedings - Endurence Midinette Koumassol Dissake - 2021-06-17

This book investigates language-related problems which arise in courtroom discourse in the Republic of Cameroon, in Central Africa. While Cameroon has over 250 languages, court cases are conducted in the two official languages: English and French. This is despite the fact that 40% of the adult population is illiterate in these languages, and means that litigants often encounter language-related problems during trials. In this study, the authors make use of Speech Act Theory and Interactional Sociolinguistics to analyse the speech acts of both legal professionals and lay litigants as observed in 37 legal cases, demonstrating how the use of euphonious languages in a highly multilingual nation constitutes a serious issue. The book will be of interest to students and scholars of Forensic Linguistics, Language Policy and Planning, and Discourse Analysis, particularly those with an interest in the African context.

On Language Change - Rudi Keller - 2005-06-29

In the twentieth century paradigms of linguistics have largely left language change to one side. Rudi Keller’s book is an exciting contribution to linguistic philosophy because it puts language change back on the linguistics agenda and demonstrates that, far from being a remote mystery, it can and should be explained.

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An Introduction to Cognitive Linguistics - Friedrich Ungerer - 2015-11-12

Learning About Language is an exciting and ambitious series of introductions to fundamental topics in language, linguistics and related areas. The books are designed for students of linguistics and those who are studying language as part of a wider course. Cognitive Linguistics explores the idea that language reflects our experience of the world. It shows that our ability to use language is closely related to other cognitive abilities such as categorization, perception, memory and attention allocation. Concepts and mental images expressed and evoked by linguistic means are linked by conceptual metaphors and metonymies and merged into more comprehensive cognitive and cultural models, frames or scenarios. It is only against this background that human communication makes sense. After 25 years of intensive research, cognitive-linguistic thinking now holds a firm place both in the wider linguistic and the cognitive-science communities. An Introduction to Cognitive Linguistics carefully explains the central concepts of categorization, of prototypes and gestalt perception, of basic level and conceptual hierarchies, of figure and ground, and of metaphor and metonymy, for which an innovative description is provided. It also brings together issues such as iconicity, lexical change, grammaticalization and language teaching that have profited considerably from being put on a cognitive basis. The second edition of this popular introduction provides a comprehensive and accessible up-to-date overview of Cognitive Linguistics: Clarifies the basic notions supported by new evidence and examples for their application in language learning Discusses major recent developments in the field: the increasing attention paid to metonymies, Construction Grammar, Conceptual Blending and its role in online-processing. Explores links with neighbouring fields like Relativity Theory. Use many diagrams and illustrations to make the theoretical argument more tangible. Includes extended exercises Provides substantial updated suggestions for further reading.

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